

Laboratory Tests of Aviaries

Year	Total No. of Aviaries Tested	No. Positive	No. Negative
1934.....	193	48	145
1935.....	79 (new aviaries)	3	76
	47 (retests*)	1*	46*
1936.....	10 (new aviaries)	.....	10
	14 (retests*)	.....	14*

In 1934, 24 per cent of the aviaries tested proved positive; in 1935 the percentage dropped to 3.8 per cent and in the first six months of 1936 all the aviaries tested were negative for psittacosis.

When the stock in an aviary is infected with psittacosis as demonstrated by laboratory examination, the birds may either be quarantined or destroyed. Practically all positive aviaries have been destroyed. This undoubtedly reduces the number of sources of infection and might account for the few positives found in 1935. However, other factors may be involved—i. e., the cessation of indiscriminate exchange of breeding stock among aviary owners with a resulting improvement in breeding stocks; the reduction of the number of nestings (mass breeding), the general sanitary conditions improved and the question of being at the low level of the disease cycle.

If the laboratory tests are negative for psittacosis, then the aviary is released. The following table gives the released aviaries by counties:

Released Aviaries by Counties, July 1, 1936

County	No. of Aviaries
Alameda	9
Contra Costa	1
Kings	2
Los Angeles	135
Orange	3
Riverside	2
Sacramento	2
San Bernardino	8
San Diego	1
San Joaquin	1
San Mateo	1
Santa Clara	5
Santa Cruz	2
Stanislaus	1
Tulare	4
Ventura	1
Total	178

LEGBAND CODE NUMBERS

A total of 178 aviaries have been given a release after negative laboratory examinations. These aviaries must band their mature birds with a code number assigned to them by the State Department of Public Health. These code numbers consist of a letter and a number with a star between indicating laboratory release (i. e., A *70). This identification is used to protect the owner when shell parakeets are involved in cases of suspected psittacosis.

SHIPPING

The released registered aviaries are permitted to sell intrastate and interstate properly banded mature birds—eight months of age or over. For interstate shipments the United States Public Health Service requires a certificate issued by the State Department of Public Health. This certificate must be sworn to by the shipper before a notary public.

A tabulation of interstate shipments is presented by months for this biennium:

Interstate Shipments of Shell Parakeets

	1934	1935	1936
January .....	.....	1,368	1,839
February .....	.....	1,303	2,101
March .....	.....	2,436	3,030
April .....	.....	2,090	2,135
May .....	.....	2,104	2,212
June .....	.....	1,347	2,098
July .....	.....	1,342	.....
August	162	2,521	.....
September	496	3,719	.....
October	1,251	4,433	.....
November	1,507	6,077	.....
December	1,830	7,862	.....
Totals	5,245	36,602	13,415

During the first six months of 1936 approximately 3,000 more birds were shipped than during the same period in 1935. This would indicate that control measures have not interfered with the economic phase of a public health problem.

*Retests—Previous tests done in 1934 or 1935. Total aviaries excluding retests 282 and 51 positives. Total birds autopsied 13,219 (1934 to July 1, 1936).

DOCTORS' HOBBY SHOW:
ALAMEDA COUNTY

What does a famous surgeon do with his spare time? Sharpen his tools and count his surgical sponges? Not always. Sometimes he ties flies against the day when he can get to the mountain streams to try his skill with the elusive trout.

Sometimes he carves bedsteads for his children, sometimes he haunts second-hand stores in search of old guns, sometimes he paces the sea shores in search of rare shells.

An idea of what doctors do with their spare time was given the general public on Saturday and Sunday, March 27 and 28, at the California College of Arts and Crafts, Broadway at College, in Oakland, when the Doctors' Hobby Show is opened to the general public.

A wide variety of exhibits was presented by the members of the medical fraternity in metropolitan Oakland, exhibits ranging from colored photography of the State of California to oil paintings and sculpture, from hand-tied flies to model airplanes.

Doctors Frank Bowles and E. N. Ewer demonstrated the cunning of their fingers and the extent of their patience in an exhibit of dry flies, all hand-made, some of them copies of standard American and English flies, some of them originals.

In addition to displaying the finished flies, the doctors showed the various steps taken in the construction of a fly tracing the process from the bare hook to the finished fly—not excluding the fish, appropriately stuffed and mounted, that may be caught, with good luck and better management.

Among the large exhibits was a bedroom set of carved wood, the work of Dr. Charles Mell who made it for his daughters and used persons of the nursery rhymes for his subjects. It included a twin bed set, a chest of drawers, a cedar chest and several plaques.

Other featured exhibits included a collection of old guns and pistols presented by Doctors C. A. Wills and Fletcher Taylor; a collection of rare stamps by Doctors Harry and Henning Koford; pipes by Dr. James Campbell; orchids by Dr. Michael Torrano; sea shells by Dr. Frank Baxter; model ships by Dr. F. S. Bascom; model airplanes by Doctor Chesebrough; arrowheads by Dr. L. Michael and archery, aviation and agricultural items by Doctors Warren B. Allen, Francis Shook, J. L. Lohse, and W. E. Mitchell, respectively.

In the art line there were books by Dr. Milton Shutes, Dr. S. H. Babington, and Dr. Frank Makinson, all authors of note; photography by Doctors H. R. Parker, W. W. Cross, G. Splithoff, Wilbur Calkins, Stanley Truman, N. Keeler, and Stanley Davis; painting by Doctors William Strietman, Charles Peters, Mark Emmerson; sculpturing by Dr. William Porter, charcoal drawings by Dr. Leland Taylor, and etchings by Dr. Paul Michael.

A list of the exhibitors follows:

- Dramatics: Dr. Robert Glen.
- Orchid Culture: Dr. Michael Torrano.
- Horticulture: Dr. George Calvin.
- Walnut Culture: Dr. John Luis Lohse.
- Study of Navajo Indians: Dr. S. H. Babington.
- Medical History: Dr. Frank Makinson.
- Life of Lincoln: Dr. Milton Shutes.
- Guns and Pottery: Dr. C. A. Wills.
- Model Ships and Rug Making: Dr. Noble Logan.
- Arrowheads: Dr. Luther Michael.
- Archery: Doctors Warren Allen, and M. F. Frandy.
- Etching, Pen and Ink, Tortise Shell Work: Dr. W. S. Porter.
- Stamps: Dr. Henning Koford.
- Astronomy: Dr. Kenneth Tattersall.
- Photographic Exhibits: Doctors Wilbur Calkins, Stanley Davis, A. W. Henry, C. A. Splithoff, Harry Templeton, Stanley Truman, W. W. Cross, H. R. Parker, and Francis Shook.
- Pastels: Dr. W. H. Strietmann.
- Charcoal: Dr. Leland Taylor.
- Etching: Dr. Paul Michael.
- Cabinet Making: Dr. Burton Adams.
- Wood Carving: Doctors Forrest Kracaw, Roy Nelson, F. W. Edmonds, Sydney Smith, Roscoe Van Nuys, L. W. Wuesthoff, and Charles Mell.
- Fly Making: Doctors E. N. Ewer, and Frank Bowles.
- Oil Painting: Dr. Mark Emerson.
- Model Airplanes: Doctor Chesebrough.
- Pipes: Dr. James Campbell.
- Sea Shells: Dr. Frank Baxter.